

SN. 10/676,805

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. OKAB:002

IN THE CLAIMS

*The status of the claims as presently amended is as follows:*

1. (Canceled)

2. (Currently Amended) ~~[[The]]~~ A toner kit according to claim 1, comprising a non-magnetic black toner having at least carbon black, and at least three color toners,

wherein said black toner has a weight-average particle diameter represented by D4b and a one-point method BET specific surface area represented by Sb, and the color toners, other than the black toner, each having a weight-average particle diameter represented by D4c and a one-point method BET specific surface area represented by Sc,

wherein said black toner and color toners satisfy the following relations (1) and (2):

Relation (1):  $0.60 \leq D4c/D4b \leq 0.96$ ,

Relation (2):  $0.750 \leq Sc/Sb \leq 1.000$ ,

and each have an average circularity of from 0.950 to 1.000 and a circularity standard deviation of less than 0.040 as measured with a flow type particle image analyzer, and

wherein, where the proportion of 5.04  $\mu\text{m}$  or smaller particles that is calculated from number-based particle size distribution of said black toner is represented by  $Ub_{5.04}$  (% by number), the proportion of 5.04  $\mu\text{m}$  or smaller particles that is calculated from number-based particle size distribution of each of said color toners is represented by  $Uc_{5.04}$  (% by number), the proportion of 12.7  $\mu\text{m}$  or larger particles that is calculated from weight-based particle size distribution of said black toner is represented by  $Ub_{12.7}$  (% by weight), and the proportion of 12.7  $\mu\text{m}$  or larger particles that is calculated from weight-based particle size distribution of each of said color toners is represented by  $Uc_{12.7}$  (% by weight), the toners satisfy the following relations (3), (4) and (5):

Relation (3):  $1.2 \leq Uc_{5.04}/Ub_{5.04} \leq 6.0$ ,

Relation (4):  $Ub_{12.7} \leq 2.0$ ,

Relation (5):  $Uc_{12.7} \leq 1.0$ .

3-10. (Canceled)

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11. (*Currently Amended*) ~~[[The]]~~ A color image-forming method according to claim 10,  
comprising:

a charging step of electrostatically charging an electrostatic-latent-image-bearing  
member for holding thereon an electrostatic latent image;

an electrostatic latent image formation step of forming the electrostatic latent image on  
the electrostatic-latent-image-bearing member thus charged;

a developing step of developing the electrostatic latent image by the use of a toner a  
developing means has, to form a toner image;

a transfer step of transferring the toner image held on the electrostatic-latent-image-  
bearing member, to a transfer material via, or not via, an intermediate transfer member; and

a fixing step of fixing by a fixing means the toner image held on the transfer material,  
wherein i) a non-magnetic black toner has at least carbon black and ii) at least three  
color toners each are used as the toner,

wherein said black toner has a weight-average particle diameter represented by D4b  
and a one-point method BET specific surface area represented by Sb, and said color toners,  
other than the black toner, each having a weight-average particle diameter represented by D4c  
and a one-point method BET specific surface area represented by Sc,

wherein said black toner and color toners satisfy the following relations (1) and (2):  
Relation (1):  $0.60 \leq D4c/D4b \leq 0.96$ ,

Relation (2):  $0.750 \leq Sc/Sb \leq 1.000$ ,

and each have an average circularity of from 0.950 to 1.000 and a circularity standard deviation  
of less than 0.040 as measured with a flow type particle image analyzer, and

wherein, where the proportion of 5.04  $\mu$ m or smaller particles that is calculated from  
number-based particle size distribution of said black toner is represented by Ub<sub>5.04</sub> (% by  
number), the proportion of 5.04  $\mu$ m or smaller particles that is calculated from number-based  
particle size distribution of each of said color toners is represented by Uc<sub>5.04</sub> (% by number), the  
proportion of 12.7  $\mu$ m or larger particles that is calculated from weight-based particle size  
distribution of said black toner is represented by Ub<sub>12.7</sub> (% by weight), and the proportion of 12.7  
 $\mu$ m or larger particles that is calculated from weight-based particle size distribution of each of  
said color toners is represented by Uc<sub>12.7</sub> (% by weight), the toners satisfy the following relations  
(3), (4) and (5):

Relation (3):  $1.2 \leq Uc_{5.04}/Ub_{5.04} \leq 6.0$ ,

Relation (4):  $Ub_{12.7} \leq 2.0$ ,

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Relation (5):  $Uc_{12.7} \leq 1.0$ .

12-22. (*Canceled*)